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INTELLIFAX 4

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

110
581

TOPIC Joint Exercises of Soviet Aircraft and PT Boats in Greifswalder Bodden

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EVALUATION 25X1PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT mid-June to 10 July 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE PREPARED 15 September 1950

REFERENCES PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. During the period from mid-June to 10 July 1950 it was observed almost daily that six PT boats left Swinemuende ($53^{\circ}55'N/14^{\circ}16'E$) at dawn. They went to Greifswalder Bodden, passing through the Rudden channel, and returned to Swinemuende at dusk.
2. The boats held their exercises in the Bodden only on days when it was possible to make flights from Peenemuende ($54^{\circ}08'N/13^{\circ}46'E$). Training flights were made over the Bodden, the airplanes occasionally diving at the PT boats. The planes did not fly over the open sea; when coming in to land they flew over the beach near Peenemuende when there were strong winds from west-southwest to west.
3. It was inferred from conversations with other fishermen, who had made the same observations, that these exercises dealt with aiming drill and voice radio communication between the boats and the planes. *

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* Comment. The formation of PT boats was a training flotilla holding exercises in defense against attack by low flying aircraft. The Greifswalder Bodden was formerly used by the Germans for PT boat and torpedo boat training of units based at the Swinemuende naval station. The Bodden proved a very suitable maneuver area, especially for initiating inexperienced crews since the seaway and the wind force in these waters did not impair the maneuvers to the same degree as in the open sea. Since it could not be observed that the Soviet boats fired practice ammunition, there is reason to believe that the crews were in the early stages of their training.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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